

Number 3: Individual mandate tax, section 501, page 296, \$33 billion. This also violates President Obama's pledge.

Number 4: Medical device tax, section 552, page 339, \$20 billion. Again, it violates President Obama's pledge to avoid tax increases on Americans earning less than \$250,000.

Number 5: \$2,500 annual cap on FSAs, section 532, page 325, \$13.3 billion. It violates President Obama's pledge.

Number 6: Prohibition on pretax purchases of over-the-counter drugs through HSAs, FSAs, and HRAs, section 531, page 324, \$5 billion. This is another violation.

Number 7: Tax on health insurance policies to fund Comparative Effectiveness Research Trust Fund, section 1802, page 1162, \$2 billion. It violates the pledge.

Number 8: 20 percent penalty on certain HSA distributions, section 533, page 326, \$1.3 billion.

Number 9: Other tax hikes and increased compliance costs on U.S. job creators, \$56.4 billion; IRS reporting on payments; delay implementation of worldwide interest allocation rules; override U.S. treaties on certain payments by insourcing businesses; codify economic substance doctrine and impose penalties.

All of these are referenced by the section number and the page number so the American people don't have to rely on what we're saying.

There is one other, which is revenue-raising provisions for \$3 billion.

The total tax increases in the bill: \$729.5 billion. This information came from the Joint Committee on Taxation, Congressional Budget Office.

Mr. Speaker, what we need is reform in our health care system. Republicans have offered commonsense reform. Those commonsense reform items are not being allowed to be heard. They were voted down in committee over and over and over again by the Democrat majority. This is not what the American people want. They want to see reform in health care, not increased taxes and a job-killing bill that will do very little to help with their challenges in dealing with health care reform.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. FALLIN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. FALLIN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. GRANGER addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. JENKINS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MYRICK addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. SCHMIDT addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GINGREY of Georgia addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REPUBLICAN HEALTH CARE SOLUTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POLIS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I am going to be joined this evening by Republican freshman colleagues of mine, and this session will be cochaired by my fellow freshman from the great State of Minnesota, ERIK PAULSEN.

ERIK, thank you for joining me this evening, and our other freshman colleagues will be joining us shortly.

We're going to be talking about health care from the perspective of freshmen. We're going to be talking about some Republican alternatives to the large bill that the Speaker introduced last week and unveiled and that we're discussing this week. We'll be doing some comparisons between bills that Republicans have to provide bet-

ter solutions, to take incremental approaches, to address the most important concerns that the American people have about their health care system first, and about the need to take a very deliberate, careful approach to changing an American health care system that needs tweaking rather than throwing out and replacing.

I yield to my colleague from Minnesota, Mr. PAULSEN.

Mr. PAULSEN. Well, thank you. I thank the gentlelady for yielding and for organizing this little discussion tonight, and I know we're going to have some of our freshman colleagues joining us.

I think, first and foremost, it's important for me to outline—and I think you share this view. You know, no one is denying that our health care system is in need of reform. Certainly, as a freshman Member, I know that the Members of our class, actually both Republican and Democrat, know that there need to be changes in the status quo. I know the Republicans, in particular in the freshman class, have been very frustrated that the media may not center or focus on some of the proposals that we actually have offered because, as you indicated, there are some very incremental approaches and piecemeal approaches which actually could be done and could be done bipartisanship to show success and progress in helping lower premiums for families, for individuals, and for small businesses.

As most of the public is well aware now, I think, just as early as last week, we had dropped on our desks a 1,990-page bill, which is a huge, mammoth bill, and we can bring that up a little later for a prop. It is a big piece of legislation, and I know we're going to be voting on that later this week.

I think I've come to realize in my first few months in office, as probably you have, that Washington is a place where actions are often taken without properly weighing the consequences and the impact of those actions. I think the bill that has been laid before us is very misguided in that it's going to have a heavy tax load put on the small business community. It's going to tax medical device companies in particular and medical device products, which impacts my district very greatly and the jobs there. We'll talk a little bit more about that in a little bit.

Our goal also is to make sure we are providing adequate coverage and are lowering the costs of health care premiums for all Americans—for individuals, families, and small businesses—because it is a pocketbook issue; but I think the approach that the majority is taking is a very misguided approach, and we're going to have some discussion about that tonight and about some of our alternatives, which, I think, make absolute common sense.

I would like to yield back.

Mrs. LUMMIS. I look forward to having our colleagues join us so we can discuss some of those.